



**Governor's STEM Advisory Council  
Executive Committee meeting #9  
Monday, July 16, 2012  
1:00 – 2:30 pm**

**PRESENT:**

**Executive Committee Member Present on Site —**

Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, Co-Chair  
President Benjamin Allen, Co-Chair  
Rob Denson  
Michelle Gowdy (*proxy for Paul Schickler III*)  
Raynard Kington  
Gail Kotval (*proxy for Debi Durham*)  
Jonathan Wickert (*proxy for Steven Leath*)  
Brad Woody  
Jeff Weld, *ex officio*

**Executive Committee Members Present via Video Conference —**

John Carver  
Rebecca Whitaker (*proxy for Sally Mason*)  
Gail Wortmann

**Staff and Guests —**

Jeneane Beck  
Carmine Boal  
Jane Bradley  
Brenda Buzynski  
Linda Fandel  
James Hoelscher  
Kari Jastorff (*via telephone*)  
Kris Kilibarda  
Janet McMahon  
Tonja Richards  
Rick Seeley  
Tina Shaw, Governor's Office  
Kari Webb

**AGENDA:**

**Opening Remarks and Welcome.**

Co-chair Lt. Governor Reynolds acknowledged the importance of meeting 9 as key to implementing first year plans to rapidly impact student interest and achievement in STEM. She observed that Iowa's progress is noticed and respected by lieutenant governors of other states. President Allen too thanked everyone for once again devoting their time to this important work, considering our infrastructure work to date as foundational to our success. Executive Director Weld welcomed members and guests.

### **Item 1: Hub Managers and Boards**

Four of six STEM regional networks now have managers in place. Two are permanent full time staff, two are temporary appointees while searches progress. The affairs of two hubs are being handled by institutional staff while searches progress.

Kari Webb, manager at the northwest hub at Iowa Lakes Community College began her new role today, July 16. Formerly Academic Dean at Spirit Lake High School and chemistry teacher of distinction.

Kris Kilibarda, manager at the southwest hub at Drake University began her new role last week. Formerly Kris was Education Department Chairperson at Central College.

James Hoelscher, interim manager at the northeast hub at the University of Northern Iowa, devotes half time to STEM matters while serving as Program Manager for Production at UNI's Center for Teaching and Learning Mathematics.

Rebecca Whitaker, interim manager at the southeast hub at the University of Iowa in partnership with Kirkwood Community College, devotes half time to STEM matters while serving as Director of K-12 Outreach for the UI College of Engineering.

Jane Bradley manages STEM hub matters for the southwest hub at Southwestern Community College while search progresses, and at ISU a small army of professionals led by VP Cathann Kress and Jay Staker of Extension and 4-H are managing STEM hub matters while a search progresses.

All hub managers are busy establishing communications, building databases, distribution lists, contacts, speaking opportunities, Advisory Boards, and documents associated with scale-up. They meet weekly with the executive director and relevant others. A *Memorandum of Understanding* between the Council and Hubs regarding expectations has been approved and contained in meeting documents.

August 14 is the target date for having permanent STEM hub managers in place in all six regions. Advisory Boards for each region are expected to be named by August 1. Leaders expressed appreciation to Rob Denson and his regional hubs committee for the architecture manifesting successfully this summer.

### **Item 2: Recommended Scale-up Projects for FY2013**

The executive director re-traced for the committee the selection process behind recommending these 12 programs. They were deemed by the panel to be most suitable for scale-up aimed at the top priority of student interest/achievement in STEM across Iowa. Program digests and merits were shared. Brief discussion of the mechanics of delivering these programs through hubs ensued.

President Allen invited a motion to proceed to a vote on approving these 12 programs for scale-up. Rob Denson made the motion, and Raynard Kington seconded, at which time President Allen invited discussion, followed by vote. The executive committee voted unanimously to approve.

In no particular order, these 12 programs will be made available to local education agencies throughout Iowa in FY 2013, supported by funding of the Governor's STEM Advisory Council:

Partnership for Engineering and Educational Resources for Schools (PEERS)  
iExploreSTEM  
State Science + Technology Fair of Iowa  
Corridor STEM Initiative  
FIRST Tech Challenge  
Fabulous Resources in Energy Education (FREE)  
HyperStream  
Project HOPE  
KidWind  
A World In Motion  
FIRST Lego League  
A CASE for Agriculture Education

A spreadsheet of all 38 applications, including profile sketches, is contained in these meeting documents.

Leaders expressed appreciation to Deb Dunkhase and her scale-up committee for the smooth, open, and effective process leading to this milestone for the Governor's STEM initiative.

### **Item 3: Budget for FY2013. And outlook for 2014**

Final approval of the (current) FY2013 budget for the Governor's STEM Advisory Council was preceded by explanations of budget expenditures as detailed in three categories: 1. Regional STEM Networks, 2. Statewide STEM, and 3. Operations Arm. Discussion revolved around the "bridge" year that enacts Council activities while fulfilling commitments to programs begun under the Iowa Math & Science Education Partnership (category 2 of the budget contained in these meeting documents). President Allen invited a motion to proceed to a vote on the FY2013 budget as proposed. Jonathan Wickert offered the motion which was seconded by John Carver. The executive committee unanimously approved the budget as presented.

For FY2014 all programming will be up for review - *modus operandi* at the IMSEP. Committee members reiterated the intention to make data-driven decisions based on demonstrable evidence of success. To begin the process of FY2014, program leaders will make presentations to the Council on Aug. 14.

### **Item 4: Information: Action Plan Recommendations; August 14 Agenda, etc.**

A draft set of merged recommendations from all seven Action Plan Working Groups is now posted for review and comment by all Council members and committee members. They will continue to be refined toward final discussion at the Council's Aug. 14 meeting.

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/15h54CEmy0WTJdS0S\\_PJj-YuHKDRrj1JhVBTOGCsnw3Q/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/15h54CEmy0WTJdS0S_PJj-YuHKDRrj1JhVBTOGCsnw3Q/edit)

A draft agenda for August 14 depicts dual goals on the day: 1. To review the existent programming supported by Council funds with an eye toward FY2014; and 2. To brainstorm direction from this point forward. The agenda is included in these meeting documents.

In setting the table for Aug. 14, the executive director asked executive committee members to reflect on how far we have come this year, and the opportunities/challenges that lie ahead. Frequent mention was made of the distance traversed so far, acknowledging the lengths yet to come. Strategic engagement of business, execution of plans, sustainability of operations, nonpartisan support, and a methodical “go slow to go fast” approach were some of the recommendations made, which will shape discussions on Aug. 14.

**Closing Comments.** Lt. Governor Reynolds expressed appreciation for all the talent and time devoted to this initiative on the part of many, especially highlighting the importance of business engagement in each region so that we can meet their expectations, wisely utilizing their time, talent, and resources. She reminded everyone of the remarkable bipartisan support of the Iowa legislature, and how vital it will be to show evidence of progress, success. President Allen followed by situating the August 14 Council meeting as critical in enacting plans, generating effect. Two significant pieces of the puzzle were approved today, for which he expressed gratitude to the executive committee.

**Adjournment.** 2:28PM

Next meeting, August 14, 2012 (full Council)

Compiled by Jeff Weld and Tonja Richards